

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 STRE-00 FEA-01 AGREE-00

AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FRB-03

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 OIC-02 /139 W
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R 301207Z SEP 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1918

INFO USMISSION OECD PARIS

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ACTION STR

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD: MTN

SUBJECT: INITIAL INPUT FOR GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT MEETING

1. FOLLOWING IS OPERATIVE PORTION OF GATT/AIR/314:

"1. AS AGREED BY THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" THE SUBGROUP "GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT" WILL COMMENCE ITS INITIAL MEETING ON WEDNESDAY 20 OCTOBER 1976 AT 3 P.M THE MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE INTERNATIONAL TELE-COMMUNICATIONS UNION BUILDING (ENTRANCE AVENUE GIUSEPPE-MOTTA). 2. AS AGREED AT THE LAST MEETING OF THE GROUP "NON-TARIFF MEASURES" THE SUBGROUP IS EXPECTED AT THIS MEETING TO ORGANIZE ITS WORK IN THE LIGHT OF THE DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE TO IT BOTH FROM GATT AND OECD SOURCES, HAVING REGARD TO ANY VIEWS EXPRESSED REGARDING REQUIREMENTS FOR ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (MTN/NTM/21, PARAGRAPH 9)."

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2. THIS MEETING WILL BE LARGELY ORGANIZATIONAL BUT WILL

ALSO SET THE INITIAL COURSE FOR WORK IN THIS GROUP.
THE TACTICS THAT WE EMPLOY IN THIS FIRST MEETING WILL
THUS HAVE A SIGNIFICANT EFFECT ON THIS INITIAL STAGE
OF THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT NEGOTIATIONS.

3. US DEL BELIEVES THAT OUR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE IN THIS
MEETING SHOULD BE TO FOCUS THE WORK OF THIS SUBGROUP
ON THE DRAFT OECD INSTRUMENT AND LAY THE GROUNDWORK
FOR ITS ACCEPTANCE AS THE NEGOTIATING DOCUMENT FOR THE
MTN (AS WE DID WITH THE DRAFT STANDARDS CODE AT THE
INITIATION OF THE MTN WORK ON STANDARDS). IN ORDER TO
ACCOMPLISH THIS OBJECTIVE WE SHOULD ENDEAVOR TO HAVE
THE DRAFT INSTRUMENT SENT DOWN FROM THE OECD AND DIS-
TRIBUTED TO MTN PARTICIPANTS AT AN EARLY DATE. AFTER
THIS IS DONE, US MTN DEL SHOULD APPROACH KEY NON-OECD
MTN PARTICIPANTS AND ENGAGE THEM IN EDUCATIONAL PRO-
CESS ON THE CONTENTS OF THE DRAFT PROCUREMENT CODE.
HOPEFULLY, BY THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE MEETING OF THE
SUBGROUP WE WILL BE IN A POSITION TO ACTIVELY DISCUSS
THE PROVISIONS OF THE DRAFT CODE.

4. TAKING THE ABOVE OBJECTIVES INTO CONSIDERATION, AT
THIS MEETING WE SHOULD: A) REVIEW THE OECD REPORT TO
THE GATT; (B) ENCOURAGE THE GROUP TO REQUEST THE DRAFT
INSTRUMENT FROM THE OECD AND (C) HAVE INCLUDED IN THE
CHAIRMAN'S SUMMING UP A COMMITMENT FOR THE SUBGROUP TO
REVIEW THE PROVISIONS OF THE CODE AT THE FIRST SUB-
STANTIVE MEETING (LATE JANUARY/EARLY FEBRUARY).

5. AN ADDITIONAL TOPIC WHICH MUST BE RESOLVED AT THIS
FIRST MEETING IS THE QUESTION OF A SUBGROUP CHAIRMAN.
GIVEN THE NECESSITY OF A GROUP CHAIRMAN BEING RESIDENT
IN GENEVA, THE SCARCITY OF SUITABLE NATIONAL CANDIDATES
IN GENEVA, AND THE EC'S GENERAL RELUCTANCE TO ACCEPT
NATIONAL CHAIRMEN, US MTN DEL BELIEVES WE SHOULD SEEK A
CHAIRMAN FOR THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SUBGROUP FROM
WITHIN THE GATT SECRETARIAT. UNLESS INSTRUCTED TO THE
CONTRARY, THE US MTN DEL WILL EXPLORE POSSIBLE CANDIDATES
WITH THE SECRETARIAT. IF AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITH
THE SECRETARIAT ON AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE, WE WILL, AS
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WE HAVE DONE IN THE PAST, ATTEMPT TO NAIL DOWN THIS
APPOINTMENT PRIOR TO THE MEETING.

6. AMBASSADOR WALKER HOPES THAT MORT POMERANZ'S (STR)
SCHEDULE WILL ALLOW HIM TO ATTEND THIS MEETING TO ENSURE
THE SMOOTH TRANSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT WORK.
CULBERT

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